

least could recommend lists of the best Irish books to be easily obtained. It is well that every encouragement should be given to make the love of country an intelligent love. What can conduce more to this object than the study of all that is best in its literature and history, so that we also may be stirred to be worthy of those who have gone before. The pre-eminence of English literature and the love which is felt for it has been one of the great strengths of England, and remember that a true and loyal love of the country of our forefathers will but pave the way for an equal, if not greater, loyal attachment to the land of our adoption.

You, young ladies of the Catholic Young Ladies' Literary Society are doing a noble work in fostering this love of reading and study. Those who have never formed this habit in youth little know the riches they lose by its neglect. And if this love is to be of the highest use to us it must be trained and directed. We have reason to fear that there are many young people in our time who only use their education for the purpose of devouring the worse than empty literature with which all countries are flooded, and which can do nothing but deteriorate. If you can meet the young girls leaving school and can introduce them to the best books and encourage them in habits of self culture, of disciplined reading, you will surely be benefiting their own lives and conferring on them a source of truest happiness and blessing.

And not this only, but you will be blessing the homes of the future by widening the mental vision and strengthening the characters of our future wives